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a first, narrow end contained within the housing and in fluid communication with the assay strip, and

a second, enlarged end protruding from the fluid receiving end.

51. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein the collection strip comprises a capillary matrix adapted for rapid wicking of fluid from a fluid source to the assay strip.

52. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein the fluid source is an oral cavity.

53. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein the second end is one of a paddle-shape and substantially bulbous shape.

54. (New) A device for assay of oral fluid, comprising:  
an assay portion housing a lateral flow assay strip;

a neck portion extending from the assay portion, the neck portion forming a channel for delivery of fluid to the assay strip, the channel being defined by a first, narrow part proximal to the assay portion and a second part including an opening for receiving the oral fluid, wherein the second part includes a channel width that is substantially wider than the channel width at the narrow end; and

a wicking member in fluid communication with the lateral assay strip, the wicking member having a first portion disposed within the channel and a second portion protruding outwardly from the neck portion opening.

55. (New) The device of claim 5, wherein the wicking member second part is paddle shaped.

56. (New) The device of claim 5, wherein the width of the neck portion tapers from the narrow end width to the opening width.

57. (New) A method for rapid collection and assay of oral fluids, comprising the steps of forming an assay device including a lateral flow assay strip, a capillary matrix in fluid communication with the assay strip, and a body for housing the assay strip, wherein at least a portion of the capillary matrix protrudes outwardly from the assay device;
- placing the assay device in an oral cavity;
- removing the assay device from the oral cavity; and
- reading the test results.
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